44 Million and Counting….

The Uninsured – Who Are They?

- 80% come from working families
- 80% are American citizens
- 64% are at <200% of the FPL
- 54% are adults without children
- 59% of uninsured adults have been without coverage for 2+years

The Oral Health Crisis

- 108M individuals do not have dental coverage
- Only 15% of the elderly have any type of dental coverage
- Nearly 1/3 of low income individuals over 35 have lost their teeth
- 75% of poor children do not receive preventive dental care
- Only 19% of children with Medicaid received preventive dental care

The uninsured—who's next?

- 35M individuals covered by Medicaid
- 29M individuals considered underinsured
- 2M individuals lose health insurance every month
- Nat'l average unemployment benefit is $939/month, average family COBRA payment is $600/month
- Nearly 40% of personal bankruptcies related to health problem or medical bills

How do communities respond?

Traditional Safety Net:

- Physicians' Offices
- Federally Qualified Community Health Centers (FQHCs)
- Hospitals
- Health Departments

Other Community Responses:

Volunteer Based:

- "Free" Clinics
- Referral Networks
- FQHCs expansion
- Insurance Look-Alike

Non-Volunteer:

- Medicaid & Dentistry
- Case Management (medication, Medicaid "wrap-around services")
- Discount Cards

Volunteers in Health Care (VIH)
how do we help communities respond?

- National resource center for organizations and providers delivering care to the uninsured, est. in 1997 and funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

- Volunteer supported medical services

  Oral health access

  Pharmaceutical access

VIH clients

- 24% free clinics
- 14% private physicians' offices
- 10% FQHCs
- 8% Government agencies
- 8% Hospitals
- 36% Other (religious inst, social service agencies, member associations, HCAP grantees)

VIH services and products

- Database of programs using volunteer clinicians
- Products: manuals, case studies, software
- Websites:

  www.RxAssist.org and
  www.volunteersinhealthcare.org

- $1.7M in grants to organizations in 47 states
- Technical assistance/consultation

Manuals & Field Reports

Policy: HIPAA, Charitable Immunity Legislation, FDA Regulations on Rx Samples

Medical: Starting a Free Clinic, Recruiting & Retaining Clinical Volunteers, Overcoming Language Barriers (Administrators & Clinicians)

Dental: Starting a Dental Program, Recruiting & Retaining Dental Volunteers

Pharmaceutical: Starting a Pharmacy Access Program, **Using Pharmaceutical Companies' Patient Assistance Programs**

Teleworkshop Series

- Medicare Drug Benefits: What's Next for Low-Income Seniors? Feb. 25th at 2pm

- Clinician Volunteerism and the Safety Net
  Cover the Uninsured Week Exclusive – May 11

- Upcoming topics: Charitable Immunity-Impact of State Laws on Community Programs; Interface of Medicine and Dentistry—How will we get there?; Models of Oral Health Access;

Other Services

Consulting:

- Over the phone

- On-Site Services
  - Actors Fund
  - Vermont Coalition

National Voice:

- Keep issues in front of other national orgs
- Joint initiatives (AAFP, NACHC)
- Joint Funding (ADA)
- Connect Media, Policymakers to the real stories -- you!

RxAssist Website

- Web-based, searchable database of medications available through PAPs

- Info on eligibility, how to apply and application forms to download

- Constantly updated

- 2 million hits/month

- 100,000 user sessions/month

RxAssist Plus
A Data Management Tool

- Stores patient data locally

- Connects to RxAssist website

- Fills out forms automatically

- Tracks applications

- Includes reports on patients, commonly requested medications, etc.

www.volunteersinhealthcare.org

"One-Stop Shop" for:

- News – VIH and National
- Funding opportunities
- VIH manuals, reports, other products
- The Latest Facts, Figures, and Research
- Legislation/Policy Updates
- VIH Listserv

A National Resource on Caring for the Uninsured

1-877-844-8442

www.volunteersinhealthcare.org

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